




PR-5B 000 076 # 2  
U.S.A.  8-17-01

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

The Patent Office  
Concept House  
Cardiff Road  
Newport  
South Wales  
NP10 8QQ



I, the undersigned, being an officer duly authorised in accordance with Section 74(1) and (4) of the Deregulation & Contracting Out Act 1994, to sign and issue certificates on behalf of the Comptroller-General, hereby certify that annexed hereto is a true copy of the documents as originally filed in connection with the patent application identified therein.

In accordance with the Patents (Companies Re-registration) Rules 1982, if a company named in this certificate and any accompanying documents has re-registered under the Companies Act 1980 with the same name as that with which it was registered immediately before re-registration save for the substitution as, or inclusion as, the last part of the name of the words "public limited company" or their equivalents in Welsh, references to the name of the company in this certificate and any accompanying documents shall be treated as references to the name with which it is so re-registered.

In accordance with the rules, the words "public limited company" may be replaced by p.l.c., plc, P.L.C. or PLC.

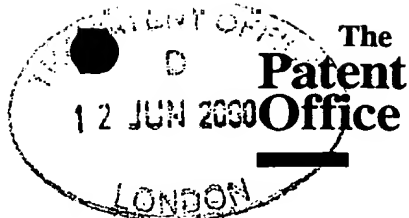
Re-registration under the Companies Act does not constitute a new legal entity but merely subjects the company to certain additional company law rules.

Signed

Dated 24 APR 2001

**CERTIFIED COPY OF  
PRIORITY DOCUMENT**





1/77

**Request for grant of a patent**

(See notes on the back of this form. You can also get an explanatory leaflet from the Patent Office to help you fill in this form)

**The Patent Office**  
Cardiff Road  
Newport  
Gwent NP9 1RH

1. Your reference PHGB000076 13JUN00 E544409-4 D02879  
P01/7700 0.00-0014327.1
2. Patent application number 0014327.1 12 JUN 2000  
(The Patent Office)
3. Full name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant (underline all surnames)
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V.<br>GROENEWOUDSEWEG 1<br>5621 BA EINDHOVEN<br>THE NETHERLANDS | LEVI STRAUSS & CO. EUROPE S.A.<br>AVENUE ARNAUD FRAITEUR 15-23<br>1050 BRUSSELS<br>BELGIUM |
|---|--|
- Patents ADP Number (if you know it) 7419294001 7916919001
- If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation THE NETHERLANDS BELGIUM
4. Title of the invention GARMENT COMPONENT
5. Name of your agent (if you have one) Andrew G. White  
"Address for service" in the United Kingdom Philips Corporate Intellectual Property  
to which all correspondence should be sent Cross Oak Lane  
(including the postcode) Redhill  
Surrey RH1 5HA
- Patents ADP number (if you know it) 7133473002
6. If you are declaring priority from one or more earlier patent applications, give the country and the date of filing of the or of each of these earlier applications and (if you know it) the or each application number
- | Country | Priority Application number<br>(if you know it) | Date of filing<br>(day/month/year) |
|---------|---|------------------------------------|
|---------|---|------------------------------------|
7. If this application is divided or otherwise derived from an earlier UK application, give the number and the filing date of the earlier application
- | Number of earlier application | Date of filing<br>(day/month/year) |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
8. Is a statement of inventorship and of right to grant of a patent required in support of this request? (Answer "Yes" if:
- YES
- a) any applicant named in part 3 is not an inventor, or
- b) there is an inventor who is not named as an applicant, or
- c) any named applicant is a corporate body.
- See note (d))

9. Enter the number of sheets for any of the following items you are filing with this form.  
Do not count copies of the same document.

Continuation sheets of this form

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Description | 5 |
| Claims(s)   | 2 |
| Abstract    | 1 |
| Drawings    | 2 |

10. If you are also filing any of the following, state how many against each item:

Priority Documents

Translations of priority documents  
Statement of inventorship and right  
to grant of a patent (*Patents Form 7/77*)  
Request for preliminary examination and  
search (*Patents Form 9/77*)  
Request for substantive examination  
(*Patents Form 10/77*)  
Any other documents  
(*Please specify*)

11. I/We request the grant of a patent on the basis of this application.

Signature

Date 12-06-2000

12. Name and daytime telephone number of person to contact in the United Kingdom 01293 815365 (David Melbourne)

**Warning**

*After an application for a patent has been filed, the Comptroller of the Patent Office will consider whether publication or communication of the invention should be prohibited or restricted under Section 22 of the Patents Act 1977. You will be informed if it is necessary to prohibit or restrict your invention in this way. Furthermore, if you live in the United Kingdom, Section 23 of the Patents Act 1977 stops you from applying for a patent abroad without first getting written permission from the Patent Office unless an application has been filed at least 6 weeks beforehand in the United Kingdom for a patent for the same invention and either no direction prohibiting publication or communication has been given, or any such direction has been revoked.*

**Notes**

- If you need help to fill in this form or you have any questions, please contact the Patent Office on 0645 500505.*
- Write your answers in capital letters using black ink or you may type them.*
- If there is not enough space for all the relevant details on any part of this form, please continue on a separate sheet of paper and write "see continuation sheet" in the relevant part(s). Any continuation sheet should be attached to this form.*
- If you have answered "Yes" Patents Form 7/77 will need to be filed.*
- Once you have filled in the form you must remember to sign and date it.*
- For details of the fee and ways to pay please contact the Patent Office.*

## DESCRIPTION

### GARMENT COMPONENT

5           The present invention relates to a cabling structure for use in garments and in particular to a cabling structure for interconnection of devices.

          The task of integrating or fitting electrical and electronic apparatus within clothing presents a number of problems to the designer. When more  
10   than one piece of apparatus is provided, or when equipment is spatially distributed as sub-components, there may be a requirement for the devices to communicate with each other. This can be done using conventional wires spanning between apparatus or components, but the resulting trailing or hanging wires are unsightly, inconvenient and when carried about the person  
15   can easily lead to accidents causing damage to the apparatus or user.

          An example of a garment of the type recited in the opening paragraph is given in US patent 5,148,002 (Kuo et al) which describes a multi-functional garment comprised of an outer shell garment and a number of electronic modules, including heating, communications and display devices.

20           A further example of a garment of the type recited in the opening paragraph is given in US patent 4,539,700 (Sato) which describes a personal portable audio device in the form of a garment having a number of pockets for receiving components of the system, with a pair of speakers for reproduction of the audio being provided in the left and right shoulder portions of the garment:  
25   the wiring from the audio signal source component to the speakers is hidden within the garment construction, including connectors within the pockets for establishing electrical connection to a device placed therein.

          It is an object of the present invention to provide a way to interconnect  
30   such apparatus that will not suffer from the problems of trailing wires.

          In accordance with a first aspect of the present invention there is provided a transmission cabling structure for use in garments, said structure

including at least one cable portion and at least one cabling termination wherein the termination is mounted on a fabric portion. By mounting the terminations on fabric portions the terminations may be easily fixed to garments by attaching the fabric portion to the garment using traditional garment construction techniques. The at least one termination may comprise a connector component. In this case, the connector component can serve to facilitate electrical or optical connection to be established with an at least one of the cabling portions.

Thus by providing a cabling structure for use in garments, the cabling structure can be used to connect together the various pieces of apparatus being carried by a person. Because the garment is provided with the cabling structure the at least one cable portion can be routed within the garment thereby avoiding the occurrence of trailing wires. Electrical or electronic apparatus may be provided with connector components suitable for mating with the connector components of the cabling structure to facilitate easy connection and disconnection with the cabling structure.

Preferably the cabling structure is constructed to be washable without sustaining damage from the washing process. The washing process can include a wet cleaning process, as is widespread in the home environment, or a dry cleaning process.

The cabling structure may further comprise a fabric carrier piece configured for incorporation into a garment and on which the remainder of the cabling structure is carried. The inclusion of a fabric carrier piece allows the pre-fabrication of a cabling structure which can be subsequently incorporated into a garment using traditional fabric construction techniques to attach the fabric carrier piece to the garment. Advantageously, this permits construction of a garment which includes the pre-fabricated cabling structure using standard production facilities and workforce skills normally found within the garment construction industry.

The present invention will now be described, by way of example only, with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 shows a first embodiment of a transmission cabling structure made in accordance with the present invention;

Figure 2 shows a second embodiment of a transmission cabling structure made in accordance with the present invention; and

5        Figure 3 shows a garment incorporating the transmission cabling structure of Figure 2.

Referring to Figure 1, a transmission cabling structure 1 includes three cable portions 2a, 2b, 2c each terminating at one end at cabling first terminals 3a, 3b, 3c respectively. In this example each of these terminations is mounted on a common fabric portion 4. Each cable portion 2a, 2b, 2c terminates at its other end at cable terminations 5a, 5b, 5c respectively. In this example each of these terminations is mounted on an individual fabric portion 6a, 6b, 6c respectively.

15        By mounting cable terminations on fabric portions, the fabric portions and therefore cable terminations can be attached to a garment using construction techniques known in the garment construction industry. Such techniques include sewing, the use of fastening components and the use of adhesive. The use of the term fabric portions in this context may be understood to include woven, knitted, rolled or felted material and other such materials. Indeed, the fabric parts 4, 6a, 6b, 6c could be of any woven, non-woven, natural or man-made sheet material suitable for use in garment construction processes.

25        The cabling portions are internally routed around the garment and may be guided using, for example, loops, tubing, conduits. Guiding may also be achieved using guides formed by selectively stitching together regions of garment lining.

30        The cable portions preferably include one or more electrical conductors and / or optical fibres. The cable may be screened to block electromagnetic interference. In the most basic form, cable portions may terminate to expose the one or more electrical conductors and / or optical fibres. However, in this example the cable terminations are each provided with an electrical connector

component suitable for mating with electrical connectors associated with electrical or electronic apparatus. In some situations connector adapter arrangements may be employed allowing electronic equipment with conventional connectors to be connected with the structure of the present invention. Preferably the electrical connector components facilitate easy connection and disconnection. One example of an electrical connector component includes the use of so-called press-studs or pop fasteners, as are widespread within the garment construction industry. The electrical connector component may instead be replaced with an optical connector component. The connector component may comprise of both electrical and optical connectors.

Referring to Figure 2, the transmission cabling and structure of Figure 1 is shown but now provided with a fabric carrier piece 7. The carrier piece is preferably constructed of a fabric material but may alternatively be of a non-fabric material that is suitable for incorporation into a garment, such as flexible sheet material. The carrier piece is configured for incorporation into a garment. The carrier piece of this example is for incorporation into a jacket which results in a saddle-like shape appearance. One or more of the fabric portions 4, 6a, 6b, 6c may be attached directly to the carrier piece 7, although in this example they are not. However, the carrier piece 7 may be provided with retaining means in the form of loops 8 for holding the cable portions 2a, 2b, 2c. The loops may be of elasticated or non elastic fabric, formed from Velcro <sup>TM</sup> or be formed of sewing thread or the like. The fabric carrier piece 7 is provided with an aperture 9 allowing cable portion 2b to pass from one side of the carrier piece 7 to the other. The aperture may be provided using standard fabric construction techniques and in this case is provided as a button hole.

Referring to Figure 3, internal components which are not visible from outside the of the jacket are shown with broken lines for clarity. Broken lines illustrate the placement of the cabling structure 1, including the carrier piece 7 within a jacket 10. The first cabling terminations 3a, 3b, 3c and cable terminations 5a and 5c are shown with solid lines because these are

accessible from the exterior of the jacket for use. Cabling termination 5b is also accessible but from the inside of the jacket. Each termination is fastened to the jacket by stitching the termination fabric portions 4, 6a, 6b, 6c directly to the garment using fabric construction techniques readily available within the garment construction industry. The terminations may be temporarily covered by providing garment flap portions or the like. Advantageously, the arrangement provides a comfortable and robust solution with the wiring placed in a way to avoid annoyance and provide distribution of weight. Other arrangements and placements are possible as will be understood by the person skilled in the art. For example the number of cables and connectors may be varied, as may be the placement of the cables and connectors. The cabling structure may be included in other garments such as trousers and clothing accessories such as scarves, headgear or the like. Indeed when more than one garment is provided with the cabling structure the garments may be connected together as will be apparent to the person skilled in the art. The cabling structure may include one or more antenna component suitable for use with a radio receiver, mobile telephone or Global Positioning System information receiver or other such wireless applications. The electrical or electronic devices can include personal audio equipment, mobile telecommunications apparatus, personal digital assistants, location establishing equipment, wearable computing equipment and input / output devices.

From reading the present disclosure other modifications will be apparent to the person skilled in the art. Such modifications may involve other features which are already known in the design, manufacture and use of systems and devices and component parts thereof and which may be used instead of or in addition to features already described herein.



## CLAIMS

1. A transmission cabling structure for use in garments, said structure including at least one cable portion and at least one cabling termination wherein the termination is mounted on a fabric portion.  
5
2. A cabling structure in accordance with claim 1 wherein the at least one termination comprises a connector component.
- 10 3. A cabling structure in accordance with claim 2 wherein the connector component facilitates electrical connection to be established with an at least one of the cabling portions.
- 15 4. A cabling structure in accordance with claim 2 or 3 wherein the connector component facilitates optical connection to be established with the at least one cabling portions.
- 20 5. A cabling structure in accordance with claim 2, 3 or 4 wherein the cabling structure is constructed to be washable without sustaining damage.
- 25 6. A cabling structure in accordance with any one or more of claims 1 to 5 and further comprising a fabric carrier piece shaped to facilitate incorporation into a garment and attached over at least a part of it's length to the or each cable portion.
- 30 7. A cabling structure in accordance with claim 6 wherein the carrier piece is attachable to a garment using conventional garment construction techniques.
8. A cabling structure in accordance with any one or more of claims 1 to 9 and further comprising an antenna.

9. A garment comprising the transmission cabling structure of any one or more of claims 1 to 8.

10. A transmission cabling structure or garment including the  
5 transmission cabling structure substantially as described herein with reference to any one or more of the Figures of the accompanying drawings.

## ABSTRACT

## GARMENT COMPONENT

5       A wiring structure (1) for incorporation into garments allows electrical or electronic equipment carried about the person to be connected together. The cabling structure comprises cabling of electrical conductors or optical fibres (2a, 2b, 2c) and cabling terminations (3a, 3b, 3c, 5a, 5b, 5c) in the form of connector components. The connector components facilitate connection and  
10   disconnection with the electrical or electronic equipment and in order to do so are provided in the finished garment at accessible locations. The cable terminations are mounted on fabric portions (4, 6a, 6b, 6c) allowing attachment with garments using traditional garment construction techniques. A fabric carrier piece (7) may be provided.

15

(Figure 2)

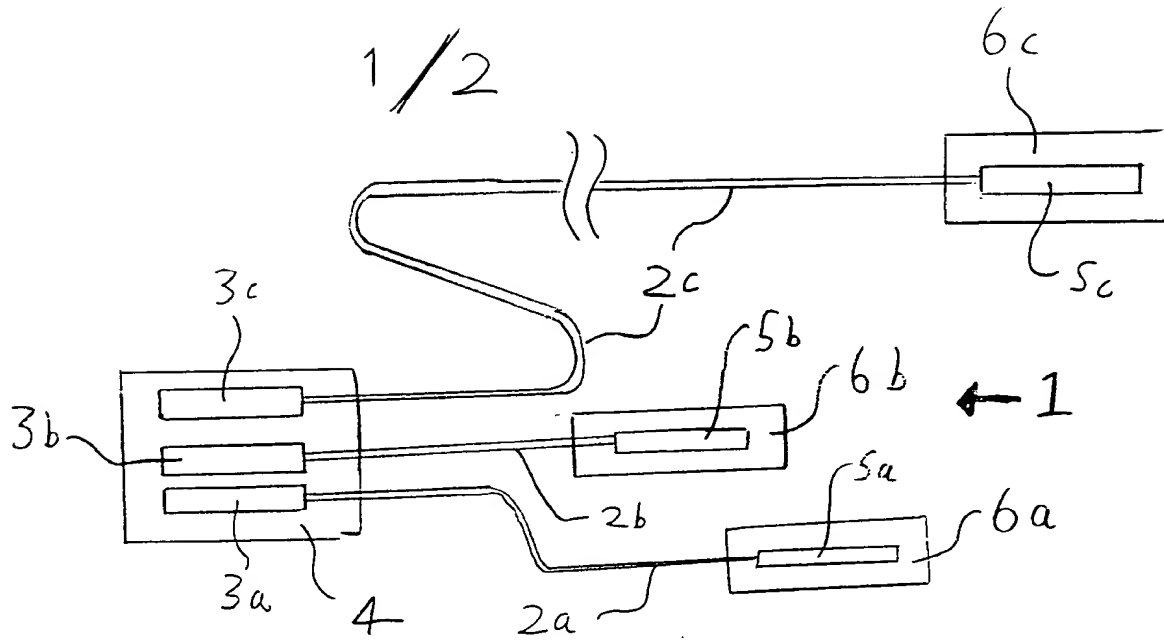


Figure 1

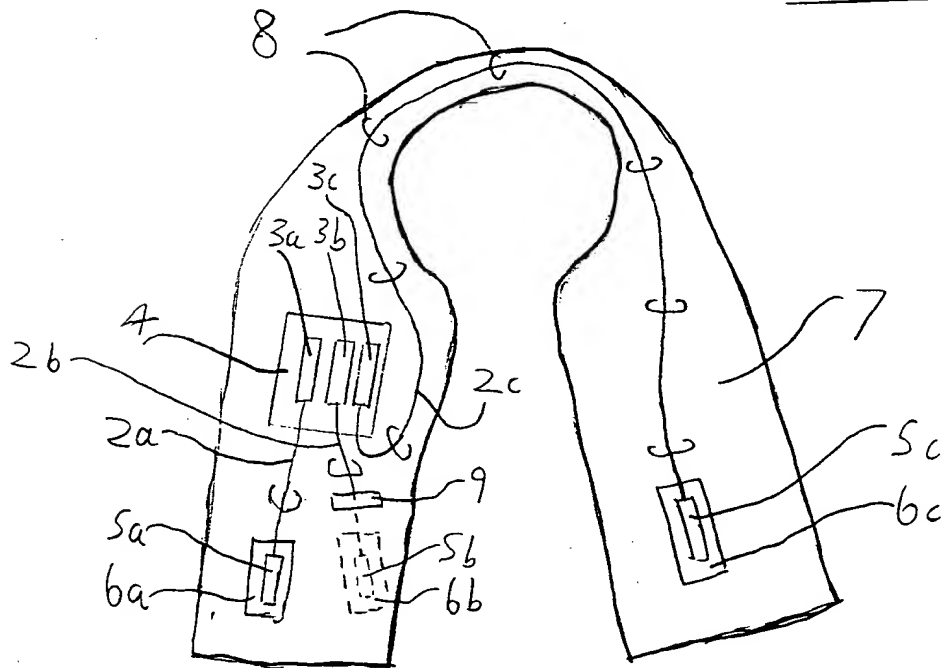


Figure 2

2/2

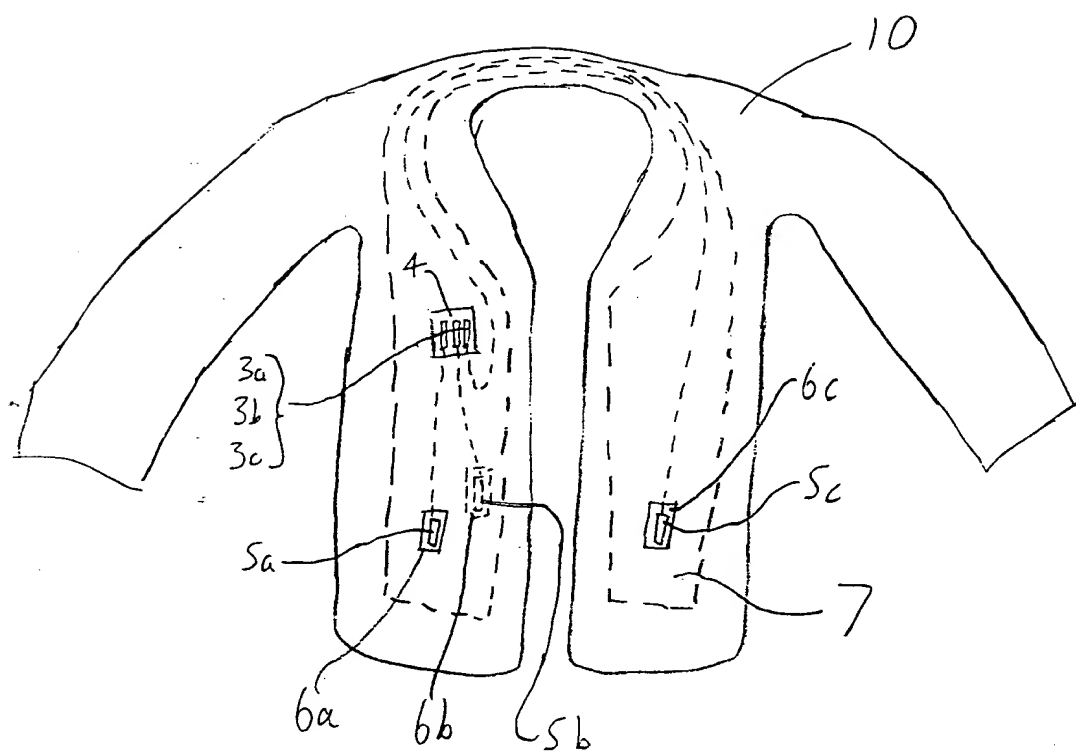


Figure 3